

## DISTRICT TO SPONSOR TEACHER WORKSHOPS

As a society we are faced with serious global issues such as airborne toxins, ozone depletion, solid waste, and global climate change on a daily basis. We are seldom given the tools to make sense of all of this information we receive from the media. Science and environmental education courses are often the last formal exposure to environmental issues that we will ever receive. Thus, it is important to give our children the tools **they** need to solve these problems that are of major concern to our environment, today and in the future.

Beginning this fall, the AVAPCD's Community Relations & Education Office will be launching a pilot teacher workshop program aimed at promoting environmental education within local schools. The workshops will be offered free of charge to local educators and other interested parties, who will receive complimentary curriculum and lesson plans. The first workshop - "Going Places, Making Choices: Transportation and the Environment"- will be presented on October 26, 2000 by staff from the National 4-H Council. This workshop will address the interwoven relationships between transportation, society, and environmental concerns. There are five units of study; The History of Transportation, Natural Resources and Energy Use, Air Pollution and Climate Change, Land Use, and Personal Choices and Action. The five units of study are designed to help educators encourage students to explore the environment, culture, and value systems as they relate to one another. The workshop is scheduled for 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Those who attend will be treated to dinner at the workshop site.

In early April 2001, the AVAPCD will host a workshop presented by staff from NASA on aerospace education and the environment. The workshop will focus on the "hot-topics" of ozone depletion and climate change, as seen and studied from space. The workshop will feature hands-on activities and instruction materials for teachers.

Both workshops will be offered during the 2000/2001 school year, and are designed to give teachers a valuable opportunity for imparting environmental knowledge on local/global issues, while using a fun hands-on approach.

Workshops will be approximately two to four hours in length and will take place after regular school hours.

Teachers and other interested parties are invited to participate in either, or both workshops. To register, or for more information, please contact the Community Relations & Education Office at (760) 245-1661, ext. 6101.